

IN THE CLAIMS:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of harvesting usage data from a receiver configured to detect and store such usage data, comprising:
providing to said receiver a privacy policy identifying the usage data sought to be harvested and an intended use for the usage data;
at said receiver determining whether a received privacy policy is acceptable;
and
if acceptable, at the receiver selecting from the store the usage data identified in the privacy policy and transmitting the usage data to a sender of the privacy policy.
2. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the receiver presents a received privacy policy to a user, and acceptance or otherwise of said policy is determined by user input.
3. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the receiver formats the received privacy policy prior to presentation to the user.
4. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the receiver stores privacy policy preference data for a user and determines automatically whether a received privacy policy is acceptable.
5. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the step of determining acceptance includes a process of negotiation between the receiver of an user and the sender of the privacy policy.

6. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein a received privacy policy may be partly accepted, with only a part of the requested usage data being transmitted as a result.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claims 1, wherein the receiver removes direct identifiers for the user from the usage data prior to transmitting to the sender of the privacy policy.

8. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claims 1, wherein the sender of the privacy policy provides conditional access services and access thereto is conditional on user acceptance of the privacy policy and transmission of the usage data.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for harvesting of usage data comprising:

a receiver;

monitoring and storage devices ~~coupled with said receiver and~~ arranged to detect and store usage data relating to a users operation of said receiver;

an input to receive a privacy policy identifying usage data sought to be harvested and the intended use for the usage data;

~~control device coupled with said input and said storage device and~~ operable to determine whether a received privacy policy is acceptable; and

an output connectable to a back channel to a source of the privacy policy,

the control device being arranged, on determination that said received privacy policy is acceptable, to select from said storage device the usage data identified in the privacy policy and transmit the usage data to the output.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 9, further comprising an output device wherein the control device presents a received privacy policy to a user, and user input means by operation of which a user determines acceptance or otherwise of said policy.

11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the control device is arranged to format the received privacy policy prior to presentation by the output device.

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the storage device holds privacy policy preference data for a user and the control device determines automatically whether a received privacy policy is acceptable.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the control device is further operable to determine partial acceptance of a received privacy policy, and to select from said storage device only a part of the requested usage data.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claims 9, wherein the control device is arranged to remove direct identifiers for the user from the usage data prior to outputting.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claims 9, wherein the receiver is a television receiver.